

## LOCAL ITEMS

About Our Town and Its People

The Green's Ladies' Aid society will meet with Mrs. Don Dean, Wednesday, June 12.

At the regular meeting of the W. R. C. Saturday, it was voted to donate \$5 more to the Red Cross, making the donations of the W. R. C. to the Red Cross, \$10.

Miss Nellie Warner visited her mother, Mrs. Fred Olger last week Wednesday and Thursday returning to her work in Greenville Thursday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Olger visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lemmie Gladding near Fenwick, Sunday.

Mrs. Fred Olger called on Mrs. Homer Olger last Thursday evening in Greenville.

Mrs. John Credit and Mrs. Fred Olger were in Ionia Monday on business and took dinner with Mrs. Olger's son and wife, Delmer Warren.

Mrs. Frances Slingerland and Mrs. Jessie Slocum spent Saturday in Grand Rapids.

Mrs. Pearl Hubbell-Cotter, formerly of Belding, who for the past few years has been living in California, is making an extended visit with her mother in Smyrna.

Please return any tube or packer belonging to Sparks & Gamber, Phone 182.

Mr. and Mrs. Arba Face spent Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hildebaugh in Fairplains.

Clark Hoxie of Easton and Miss Davis of Grand Rapids were guests of Mrs. E. A. Cook Sunday.

W. Harroun, daughter, Jessie, and son, Harry, were in Ionia Thursday to visit Ben Harroun, who expects to leave soon for France.

There will be initiation at the next regular meeting of Doric chapter, No. 75, O. E. S., Tuesday evening, June 11. Bessie Peterson, secretary.

Mrs. Wm. Wood and son, Robert, went to Alpena today to visit with her parents a month.

Miss Anna Larsen went to Greenville this morning to visit with friends.

Mrs. Lydia Allen and two children of Flint, spent Tuesday at the homes of Ed. Souders and Lyle Fox.

Miss Abbie Hall went to Greenville this morning to visit friends.

Miss Vada Rowley, who is attending school at Edmore, visited with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rowley Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. LaVern Taylor of Lansing, came up Monday night and are visiting for a week at the home of the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Pond.

The Good Cheer circle of the Baptist Sunday school will meet with Mrs. James Carroll on the North side Wednesday afternoon, June 12. All members should be present.

Mrs. John Monks of Saranac was the guest of Mrs. Emma Fuller Tuesday and Tuesday night.

Five cents a day for a short time is all it costs to rid yourself of rheumatism if you use Rheuma. Get a bottle from Wortley & French today on the money-back plan.

Mrs. Melissa Cobb went to Saranac today to help her sister-in-law, Mrs. A. M. Hull, celebrate the 84th anniversary of her birthday.

Mrs. Miles Wood and grandson, Deile Conklin and Mrs. Mary Lett are Lowell visitors today.

Miss Marie Byrne of Moseley returned home today after visiting a few days with Miss Agnes Doyle and other friends here.

Ellis Mumby of Coral returned home Monday after visiting a few days with his aunt, Miss Mary Barclay and other relatives here.

S. D. Norman and Mrs. L. M. Carl of South Grattan were visitors at the home of Mrs. Sarah Lester and Mrs. M. A. Godfrey Sunday.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Emory Hough of North Baltimore, Ohio, on May 29, a 10 pound son. Mr. Hough is a grandson of the late Mrs. Nelson Holmes and well known in and around Belding.

Miss Lydia McCracken returned on Monday from a visit with St. Johns friends.

Miss Millie Hilton and daughter, Alta, went to Chippewa Lake Monday where they intend to spend the coming summer with relatives.

Any person having ice cream tubs or cans belonging to Sparks & Gamber, please notify them and will call for same.

Mrs. Hugh Evans returned Monday from a few days' visit with her husband and daughters in Detroit.

Miss Daisy Brown was a Greenville visitor Monday.

Burr Marr went to Alma Tuesday on business.

O. M. Isham went to Butternut on Tuesday to look after his farm work.

Mrs. John Fuester and son Lewis of Keene went to Marion, Osceola county, Tuesday to visit two weeks with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Darling, Mr. and Mrs. John Ferguson and Miss Connor, all of Detroit, spent Saturday and Sunday of last week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Bowles.

Miss Dana Bailey was an over Sunday guest of relatives at Lansing.

Mrs. G. Elferdink and son, John, and Mrs. Anna Cope of Grand Rapids returned home Tuesday after visiting a few days at the homes of John Rinker and Frank Gibson of Otisco.

Mrs. Susan Krupp and Mrs. Josephine Shindorf went to Grand Rapids Tuesday to visit a few days with relatives and friends.

Any person having ice cream tubs or cans belonging to Sparks & Gamber, please notify them and will call for same.

Miss Georgia Aselin was a Grand Rapids visitor Tuesday.

Ray McConnell returned to Camp Custer Tuesday after visiting a few days with home folks here.

Mrs. J. S. Peterson and daughter, Frances of Grand Rapids, are visiting at the home of her father, R. E. Biss, of Otisco.

R. R. Moore was in Grand Rapids Tuesday on business.

Mrs. H. L. Westcott of Detroit returned home Tuesday after visiting a few days at the home of Mrs. Ira Westcott.

Please return any tube or packer belonging to Sparks & Gamber, Phone 182.

Mrs. J. C. Lewis, of Alma, was a guest of her sister, Mrs. W. D. Sumner, over Sunday.

"Mike" Feeney, formerly employed as a wood carver in the factories here has been around town for a few days shaking hands with old friends and acquaintances. Mike left here about nine years ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Mart Hayes of Grand Rapids motored up Tuesday morning to visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Max Walser.

Joseph Lichtenauer, a resident of Greenville for 45 years past, died early Tuesday morning. He was 72 years old and had been in the clothing business most of the time while in Greenville. Funeral services Thursday morning at 9 o'clock and the body will be taken to Cincinnati, Ohio, for burial.

Accident at R. R. Crossing. When he turned his team east off from Bridge street, one of the rear wheels on the wagon on which Jay Handy was riding, started to follow up a side track with the result that it broke off at the axle. The team though somewhat frightened, stopped and no further damage was done.

E. E. SLYE, CANDIDATE FOR SHERIFF. I am a candidate for sheriff on the Republican ticket at the primary election, to be held August 27, 1918. If nominated and elected I will give to the people of Ionia county a good, clean and business-like administration, and I solicit the support of the voters upon this kind of a platform.

Yours truly, E. E. Syle, Ionia, Mich., May 27, 1918.—Adv.

## CHILDREN GAVE A GOOD SHOW, RED CROSS BENEFIT

YOUNGSTERS ARRANGED ENTIRE PROGRAM—HELD SHOW ON LAWN—\$9.00 RAISED.

Perhaps very few people realized it but Friday and Saturday were circus days in this man's town.

No glaring posters greeted the eye and told of the coming event before hand and no newspaper space or hand bills were used to acquaint the people with the big stunt which was to be pulled off in the city on those days.

Like-wise no steam calliope disturbed the stillness, peace and quiet of the city after the big show was ready and the boss canvassman had his slaves preparatory to raising the canvas.

To tell the truth about it, but very few people in the neighborhood knew anything about it. Only the mothers of the youthful actors, the actors themselves and a few "kids" who had been told about it through the fact that they had been asked to perhaps having then necessary "cents" which it was proposed to charge as an admission fee.

The first show was given on Friday afternoon with a fairly good sized audience. The tent had been set up on Ed. Belding's lawn and the south end of the tent was open. A number of chairs and seats made seating capacity very nearly enough to accommodate one-half of the audience.

The aisle from the rear to the front end of the theater was far from being in accordance with the state fire laws, but this circus management didn't care about that, in fact, they perhaps never heard of such things as fire laws.

Saturday morning the show was repeated to a good sized audience and at 4:30 o'clock Saturday afternoon a special repeat was given for the benefit of the girls working in the mills and who were unable to witness either of the two previous performances.

The show program, while it varied somewhat each time, was about as follows:

1.—A Dance—Louise Kimberly.

2.—A Recitation—Billy Upholt.

3.—"Oh Where is My Little Dog?"—Joseph Fingleton.

4.—"Dunkards Not Allowed"—Charlie Chaplin (Louis Brown) and wife, (Katherine Fingleton).

5.—"Long Boy"—Louis Brown.

6.—"Where Do We Go From Here?"—Lester Collier.

7.—"The Milk Bottle U-boat"—Louis Brown and Harry Fox.

8.—"Who Goes There?"—Sentry, Louis Brown, reconnoitering commander, Paul Kimberly, stretcher bearers, Douglas Belding and Lester Collier. (Lots of shooting, bloodshed, stirring and emotional acting here).

9.—"Ray Ring Making Sausages"—Several of the actors and a neighbor's dog, which objected rather strenuously.

10.—"A German Spy Case" by an American general (Louis Brown), an officer (Lester Collier), two privates (Henry Upholt, Jr., and Harry Fox), The Hated German Spy (Douglas Belding).

11.—"Keep The Home Fires Burning"—Louise Kimberly.

12.—"Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star"—Katherine Fingleton.

13.—Jokes by all actors who desired to get in on the stage.

While the announcer, Paul Kimberly, had a hard time keeping track of the actors, they were finally rounded up, after being announced and pushed in front of the audience. The outside rear part of the lawn and tent acted as a dressing room and one-half of the audience sat or stood out in front of the tent to watch the performance.

It was good, and what is still better, those little rascals planned that the money which they would raise by giving the show would go to the Red Cross and as a consequence the Red Cross is about \$7.00 better off now than it was before the youngsters put on the show.

WAR LETTERS FROM THE BOYS WHO ARE GONE (Continued from Page One)

Other letters which we are pleased to publish are from Edwin N. Bailey, son of Mrs. W. H. Shaw, to his mother here. Private Bailey has been in France now for a long time and undoubtedly has had some active service before this.

His letters are as follows: May 5, 1918.

Dear Mother: Just a few lines tonight before the lights go out, that is at 9:30. Just got through writing one letter. I received yours and Idell's letters yesterday. I ought to have written before but have not had time to do anything. It is raining tonight. We sure get enough of that over here if nothing else.

There is not much of any thing else to write about over here. Can't tell where we are or what other troops are here or where other troops are if we know. I am quite sure where Francis Bailey is. I have had one letter from him. I am sure it but have not heard from him since then. I wrote to Clarence Bailey but haven't heard from him so will write to him again some day before long if I get time. But don't know when that will be, if things keep up this way. Guess I will close for this time. I remain, as ever, your loving son, Edwin R. Bailey.

Mothers' Day, May 12, 1918.

Dear Mother: Just a few lines today to let you know that I am thinking of you again and that I am well and hope you are the same and not worrying. Whatever you do don't worry about me. I'll be all right as long as I stay in this company. We have had fine weather here today. Haven't seen any of the Belding boys except Elmer Harrington. I see him once in awhile, not very often for I don't get time to go over there. If you see Mark or Charles or Tyler or any of the rest tell them I said hello and to write to me if they get time. I wrote to Mark once but he

did not answer. I wrote to Clarence Bailey this forenoon. I think I will have to write to Francis Bailey too before long. I guess I will close and write to Sister Hazel. Hoping to hear from you soon, I remain as ever Your loving son, Edwin.

P. S.—Tell Pa and Frank and all that I said hello.

Another letter which we are pleased to publish is from Charley King, well known local boy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed. King of North Bridge street, to his mother. As will be seen from the letter Charley is now in France and thinks the country is one of the prettiest places on earth.

Somewhere in France, May, 1918.

Dear Mother and All: Just a few lines to let you know I arrived o. k. and sure had some trip and say talk about pretty places, this has got it all over the U. S. as much as you can imagine, some of the most beautiful places you ever laid eyes on and I don't blame the people for fighting so hard to protect it and believe me by the looks of the people dressed in black there have been a few gave their lives for the cause. Well, ma, I don't want you to worry about me any and when you get this letter and get around to answer it see if you can find out what Clarence Bailey's address is. You know that is Dana's brother and I will see if I can locate him over here. Gee I would like to run across all the boys from home over here. It has been so long since I've seen anyone I know I don't believe I would know how to act. Gee, I got lonesome a lot of times on the boat but it would soon year off and then everything was good. I got it the night we got on the boat to start over. Well, Ma, I can't think of much more so I guess I'll close for this time, hoping this reaches you all o. k., and to hear from you soon. I remain as ever, your loving son, Charles.

Oglethorpe Replaces, Apr. Draft, Co. No. 2, Overland Casualty Co., American Expeditionary Forces, France.

P. S.—I'll drop a line to Augusta after I get settled and if there is any new address you can write to the one I give, here and I'll tell her to tell you what it is.

Only a Volunteer. The following volunteer was sent in to Mrs. W. R. King, by her nephew, Wesley C. Thompson, now stationed at Hicks, Texas. Evidently, from the poetry a volunteer does not rank as high as a drafted man but there is and we hope, however, more poetry than truth in the following:

"ONLY A VOLUNTEER"

Why didn't I wait to be drafted? And be led to the train by a band, Or put in a claim for exemption, Or, why did I hold up my hand? Why didn't I wait for he banquets, Why didn't I wait to be cheered? For the drafted get the credit, While I only volunteered.

Nobody gave me a banquet, No friends said just one kind word; A puff of the engine, a grind of the wheels, Was all the goodbye I heard.

Then to the camp I was hustled, To be trained for the next half year, And in the shuffle I was forgotten, I was only a volunteer.

I builded the others their barracks, While roasting alive in a tent, I cleaned off a dozen parade grounds, For the fellows that were only sent.

Then along came the National army, And then it was made very clear, That the glory goes to the drafted man, And the work to the volunteer.

I have waded the mud in Texas; I have frozen in Canada's cold; I've walked my post in the moonlight, Till this army is getting old.

But I'm not on the Roll of Honor, And the same may shed a tear; By all the rest I'm forgotten, For I'm only a volunteer.

And I dreamed in the far-off Flanders On the bloody field of Hate, I went over the "Top" By a bullet I was stopped, Then I knocked at the "Pearly Gate."

And I heard St. Peter saying: "I have no room for your kind in here."

We're reserved for the National army, Hell was made for the volunteer.

And perhaps some day in the future, When my little boy sits on my knee And asks what I did in the great war, As he looks-up at me; I'll have to look back in those eyes, That at me so trustingly peer, And tell him I was not drafted, I was only a Volunteer.

The "Dry" Candidate for Sheriff. Henry J. Cook, of Ionia, was in the city Sunday, together with his family visiting at the homes of G. O. Bignell and other friends here.

Mr. Cook is also a candidate for sheriff at the coming primaries in August and says things are looking mighty bright for him. Years ago, when the first local option or "dry" efforts were begun around this county, Mr. Cook was one of the first men to give assistance to the local option cause and he has always been a strong worker with the dry forces. While talking to some of Mr. Cook's friends here we learn that he is going to get the support of the "dry" people of the county, which, if true, will make him an almost assured winner in the race at the primaries and subsequent elections this summer and fall and he would also be the first democratic sheriff this county has had in many a year.

Baptist Church. Children's day exercises will be held in the Baptist church next Sunday morning at the regular hour of service, 10:30. The Sunday school is preparing a splendid program. All are welcome.

Real Estate For Sale

A Fine 156 Acre Farm, two miles west of Belding, good soil, fine location.

8 Room House on May street, modern, corner lot, garage, all in good condition; will sell for \$1,750.00.

Modern eight room house, nice surroundings, good neighborhood and location, close in, garage, corner lot, priced low for quick sale.

The T. Frank Ireland home on Hall street, one of the most modern homes in the city, 10-room house, full basement, 2 toilets, bath, laundry, furnace, garage. To be sold at \$3,000.00.

5 Room House on Pearl street, has water, lights, gas, toilet, good cellar. Price \$1,400.00.

5 Room House, barn, hen coops, three extra lots on South Bridge street, all for \$1,800.00.

7 Room House, corner James and Ann streets, has lights, gas, toilet, water, cellar, cistern, corner lot. Price \$1,250.00.

GEO. E. WAGNER Real Estate and Insurance Phone 54

Invest Right

Right now Liberty Loan bonds must have first consideration.

Then clothes must be bought wisely. Good clothes made of all-wool material last longer and look better than any other kind.

Cheap clothes, made of shoddy, look old from the start and are very expensive in the end.

H. S. & M. and Styleplus clothes are the kind that "stand up" in service and "stand out" in appearance; they conserve the nation's wool supply.

\$17.00, \$21.00, \$25.00 \$30.00

FRISTOE & DIVINE The New Way Store

Buy Now and Save Money--

Nearly all staple merchandise is costing more than our present selling price and is still going higher. We will not be able to maintain our present low prices much longer and advise early purchases.

The following items we especially advise our friends to lay in a supply.

Cotton Cloth, Percales, Calico, Gingham, Table Damask, Curtain Goods, Linoleum

Plaid's STYLE STORE FOR WOMEN

Buy your Tea and Coffee here and receive a nice Azminster rug as a premium.

Our prices are always the lowest and our goods are always the best.

Come in and give us a trial. We pay the highest market prices for Butter and Eggs.

First 20 people making a purchase of \$1.00 or more will receive absolutely free one package of Old Colony Coffee, best 35c Coffee on the market. Saturday 2 lb. for 58c

OTHER BIG SPECIALS

2 large cans Dundee Milk 25c

6 small cans Dundee Milk 35c

2 cans Leader Milk 37c

2 large cans Tomatoes 48c

2 Small cans Tomatoes 28c

Best 35c Red Salmon 28c

25c Pink Salmon 20c

Oil Sardines 8c

Mustard Sardines 18c

Best Cream Cheese 30c

Minceed Ham 25c

Veal Loaf 25c

Bulk Macaroni, per lb. 12c

Bulk Starch 9c

Nut Oleomargarine, 2 lbs. 68c

Blue Ribbon Oleomargarine, 2 lbs. 68c

Eastlake Oleomargarine, 2 lbs. 60c

Lotus Oleomargarine, 2 lbs. 58c

10 bars any kind Soap 68c

Export Borax Soap, 5 bars 25c

White Flyer, 5 bars 28c

Nice assortment fancy Shopping Baskets at low prices.

Ohio Blue Tip Matches, 12 boxes 60c

2 pkgs. Corn Flakes 25c

Buy your Tea and Coffee here and receive a nice Azminster rug as a premium.

Our prices are always the lowest and our goods are always the best.

Come in and give us a trial. We pay the highest market prices for Butter and Eggs.

## EMPRESS THEATRE

The Home of High Class Pictures. PROGRAM

FRIDAY, JUNE 7—"THE WEAKNESS OF MAN," featuring HOLBROOK BLYNN in a World, Brady-made play.

SATURDAY, JUNE 8—"Metro Wond erplay, featuring VIOLA DANA in "BREAKERS AHEAD."

SUNDAY, JUNE 9—"VIVIAN MART IN in her new Famous Players-Lasky play, "THE SUNSET TRAIL."

MONDAY, JUNE 10.—Goldwyn presents MARY GARDEN in "THE SILENT SINNER."

TUESDAY, JUNE 11.—CARLY LE BLACKWELL in a World, Brady-made play, "HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS."

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12.—A World five reel production.

THURSDAY, JUNE 13 and FRIDAY, JUNE 14.—An All-star cast in "FOR THE FREEDOM OF THE WORLD," one of the greatest patriotic photoplays on the screen, showing actual scenes in the Canadian training camps and in war-ridden Belgium.

SATURDAY, JUNE 15—"THE TRAIL OF YESTERDAY," A Metro Wonderplay featuring the wonderful star of "The Lone Wolf,"—BERT LYELL.

If You Buy It Of Willoughby You Know It Is Good.

Graduation Presents

A Wonderful Line at Moderate Prices

It will pay you to look over our line before buying.

We can save you money on your purchases as well as give you the highest in quality.

Do not fail to visit our store for your Graduation presents as well as Wedding gifts. We are in a position to give you the greatest value to be had in our line.

YOURS FOR QUALITY, PRICES AND SERVICE

OUR AIM IS M. L. Willoughby SATISFACTION TO PLEASE. GUARANTEED.

JEWELRY and PATHEPHONES

Watch Makers and Inspectors for Pere Marquette Railroad.

Thirteen Years in the Jewelry Business.

Watch Makers and Inspectors for Pere Marquette Railroad.

Thirteen Years in the Jewelry Business.